(b) what is the consumption of LPG in 1985 as compared to 1984; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to produce LPG to meet the demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) The production of LPG in 1985 was approximately 1130,000 Tonnes as against 844,000 Tonnes in 1984.

(b) The consumption of LPG in 1985 was approximately 1161,000 Tonnes as against 886,000 Tonnes in 1984.

(c) LPG availability is likely to increase with the Commissioning stabilisation of the following:--

(i) ONGC's fractionation plant at Hazira.

(ii) Barauni Refinery's coker plant.

(iii) Stabilisation of the expanded capacities of the refineries at Cochin, Madras, Vishakhapatnam and Bombay (Bharat Petroleum Corporation).

(iv) Commissioning of additional bottling capacity

Shortage of electricity in Delhi

882. SHRI SHAMIM AHMED SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state: (a) whether Government are aware that the Delhities are facing acute shortage of electricity during the summer season continuously for the last few years; and

(b) what precautionary measures have been taken by Government to overcome the situation in the forthcoming summer months of May and June?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) The power requirement of Delhi during the summer in the last few years has been, by and large, fully met and no shortage conditions have been experienced. To further augment the power availability in Delhi, six gas turbine units of 30 MW each are being installed during 1986-87.

Increasing the commission of petrol dealers

883. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are thinking in terms of increasing the commission of petrol dealers in view of recent hike in the prices of petroleum products;

(b) whether Government have received any representation from All India Petrol Dealers Association highlighting the plight of dealers;

(c) whether the commission of petrol dealers work out to less than 1.5 per cent; whether there is any proposal to increase the commission on lubrication oil which has dropped from 25 per cent to 6 per cent;

(d) whether petrol dealers have represented that they should be allowed to charge for air, as air compressors, electricity and wage bills have gone high;

(e) what is the reaction of Government thereto; and

(f) how much commission was 20 years ago in terms of percentage of the cost of the product and how much it is at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) There is an inbuilt formula by which the commission to RPO dealers gets increased automatically from the date of increase in the prices of petroleum products.

(b) Yes. Sir.

(c) The Commission to dealers on MS and HSD is based on slab system to ensure viability of low throughout outlets as against a percentage relationship between the commission and the price of the product. The rates of commission for lubricant singularly does not affect the profitability of the dealer.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The total expenses of the dealer (which includes expenses pertaining to supply of free air) has been taken into account while working out the rates of commission.

(f) The Commission on MS & HSD in 1960 as percentage of ex-storage price was as under:

Petrol	8.13%
Diesel	3.96%

The percentage of the present commission to the ex-storage selling price as on 31-1-1986 is as under:

Slab for sales volume in KL	% of dealer commission on ex-storage price of petrol	% of Dealer commission on ex-storage price of Diesel
1—360	2·29	2·76
361—600	1·69	2·06
601—1080	1·49	1·46
Over 1080	1·19	1·26

Energy Crisis

884. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that great concern was expressed that country was faced with a prospect of serious energy crisis

(b) if so, whether a study was conducted by the Energy Advisory Board in which it was stated that energy shortages are likely to continue for quite time in India;

(c) if so, what are the main reasons put forth by them in this regard: and

(d) what are the steps being taken to meet the serious energy crisis in the country?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) In the light of the projections of the Advisory Board on Energy on the Energy Demand and Supply position in the year 2004-05, concern has been expressed that energy shortages could become acute with increased commercial energy consumption and the passage of time.

(c) The report has indicated that there is likely to be a deficit in the availability of oil for meeting the domestic demand taking into account the present supply—demand position.

(d) The present approach is to reduce dependence on oil to the maximum extent possible, increasingly use indigenously available energy resources and promote efficient utilisation of various energy sources.

Power shortage in Karnataka and Gujarat States

885. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state: